

5 March 1964

Briefing Note on Presidential Authorization to Release Information  
on the A-11 Program

The congressional problem is to authorize Air Force witnesses to give sufficient information in Top Secret executive hearings to the House and Senate Armed Services and Defense Appropriations Subcommittees so that members not heretofore briefed on the A-11 will have information of the type that they would receive on any new classified weapons system.

In order to give a plausible explanation of the history of this project, the members should be informed by the Chairmen that CIA participated in the initiation of the project but that it has now developed into a military program as the A-11 Interceptor. The Air Force witnesses should then be permitted to give details of the A-11 as a weapons system together with information on costs and budgeting. No information should be given on any current CIA interest or on the method of financing and contracting which involves CIA. Instructions to witnesses on what information they can provide these Committees will be coordinated by CIA through NRO.

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TOP SECRET

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MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

1. I discussed with Mr. McGeorge Bundy the briefing note you prepared on Presidential authorization to release information on the A-11 program.

2. He approved it and you will note his initials on the original. He said there was no need to go to the President, that he was confident that it conformed directly to the President's desires.

3. Please take appropriate action accordingly, and inform me as to what else you might wish me to do.

Marshall S. Carter  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Acting Director

MSC:blp

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